

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

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FM AMEMBASSY SANAA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1904
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 453

AIDAC

BEIRUT FOR AAO BALL

SUBJECT: AID/ AUB SCHOLARSHIPS

SUMMARY. WE NEED TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR 1973-74, YARG HAS ALREADY STARTED ITS OWN. TWO EXCELLENT CANDIDATES IDENTIFIED ABOUT WHOM WE HAVE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS. IF REPORTS OF CLOSING AAO OFFICE TRUE, WE WISH TO RECORD OUR STRONGEST OPPOSITION. END SUMMARY.

1. ALTHOUGH AID/ Y OFFICE HAS NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED, BELIEVE WE MUST START PLANNING FOR YAR INPUT INTO 1973/74 AID/ AUB PROGRAM. WE HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO RECEIVE INQUIRIES FROM MINED DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND FROM INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES.

2. MINED HAS PREPARED PLANNING DOCUMENT LISTING NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS IT HOPES EACH DONOR COUNTRY CAN PROVIDE TO YAR. DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS HAS SHOWN US DOCUMENT WHICH LISTS SOME FIFTEEN AUB SCHOLARSHIPS (WHICH MINED HOPES WILL BE FIVE AGRICULTURE, FIVE COMMERCE, AND FIVE ADMINISTRATION). MINED ALSO HAS NINE STUDENTS AT LEBANESE UNIVERSITY STUDYING EDUCATION. ACCORDING MINED THEIR LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION HAS BEEN CHANGED RECENTLY FROM ENGLISH TO FRENCH WHICH THEY DO NOT SPEAK OR UNDERSTAND. CONSEQUENTLY, MINED HOPES THEY COULD BE PICKED UP UNDER AID/ AUB PROGRAM , POINTING OUT THAT FARE ALREADY PAID AND STUDENTS KNOW
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ENGLISH. WE OF COURSE MADE NO COMMITMENTS, BUT POINTED OUT THAT AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND QUALIFICATIONS OF STUDENTS WOULD BE CONTROLLING.

3. DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS ALSO HAS LISTED IN PLANNING DOCUMENT FIFTEEN SCHOLARSHIPS TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CAIRO (5 ADMINISTRATION, 5 ECONOMICS, 5 LAW). WE RESPONDED THAT USE OF AUC HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT LENGTH BY STATE(CU), AFME, AND AUC IN 1971, BUT DOLLAR TUITION REQUIREMENTS HAD PREVENTED ESTABLISHMENT OF CU PROGRAM. AS FAR AS WE KNEW THIS PROBLEM STILL EXISTED, BUT WE WOULD PRESENT REQUEST TO AID/ W FOR CONSIDERATION.

4. AUB ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS WILL POSE A DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR US THIS YEAR. AUB, WE UNDERSTAND, RECOGNIZES YAR SECONDARY CERTIFICATE AND ADMITS HOLDERS TO UNIVERSITY WITHOUT ENTRANCE EXAM. UNFORTUNATELY YAR EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS ARE VERY LOW, ESPECIALLY IN ENGLISH, AND IT IS VERY HARD TO FIND SUITABLE CANDIDATES WHO ARE PRODUCTS OF LOCAL SYSTEM. IN CONTRAST YEMEN HAS A FAIR NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO HAVE STUDIED ABROAD (MOSTLY GCE) AND WHOSE GENERAL LEVEL OF PREPARATION AND ENGLISH ABILITY IS CLEARLY SUPERIOR TO LOCAL CANDIDATES. THESE APPLICANTS MUST PASS A DIFFICULT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AND, STARTING NEXT YEAR, MUST PRESENT " A" LEVELS FOR GCE. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON THIS POINT.

5. WE HAVE ALREADY IDENTIFIED TWO EXCELLENT CANDIDATES FOR AUB WHOSE FORMAL NOMINATIONS WE ARE AWAITING. ONE IS MOHAMMED KHODR, SON OF FONMIN UNDERSECRETARY, WHO IS GRADUATING IN JUNE FROM ACADIA BAPTIST ACADEMY, EUNICE, LOUISIANA. HE HAS BEEN EDUCATED IN ENGLISH SINCE GRAMMAR SCHOOL (TAIZ AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL) AND IS MAINTAINING STRAIGHT " A" AVERAGE IN HIGH SCHOOL. WE HAVE TOLD FATHER THAT MOHAMMED SHOULD TAKE CEEB SINCE HE STUDYING IN U. S. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING FROM BEIRUT IF ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS NEED BE MET.

6. SECOND CANDIDATE IS AHMAD MUHAMMAD MU' MAN, SON OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER MUHAMMAD
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AHMAD NU' MAN. SON HAS STUDIED IN CAIRO AND BEIRUT

AND HAS YAR SECONDARY CERTIFICATE. HIS ENGLISH IS
GOOD, ALTHOUGH NOT AS GOOD AS MUHAMMAD KHODR' S,
AND HE WOULD PROBABLY NEED SOME REMEDIAL WORK. HIS
FATHER HAS ASKED IF HE COULD STUDY ENGLISH AT AUB
THIS SUMMER, PREPARATORY TO ADMISSION. WE BELIEVE
THIS DESIREABLE AND HOPE FAVORABLE RESPONSE POSSIBLE
IN SHORT TIME AS HE IS EXCELLENT CANDIDATE WHO MAY OTHERWISE
MAKE OTHER PLANS FOR SUMMER AND NEXT YEAR.

7. BEIRUT' S COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED BOTH
ON TW
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